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C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 000553

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/03/2017

TAGS: PREL PTER IR MU

SUBJECT: INVITATION FOR OMANI DEFENSE UNDER SECRETARY TO
PARTICIPATE IN GULF SECURITY DIALOGUE

REF: A. MUSCAT 468

¶B. STATE 62414

Classified By: Ambassador Gary A. Grappo for Reasons 1.4 (b, d)

(C) The government of Oman has not yet determined who will accompany Ministry of Foreign Affairs Under Secretary Sayyid Badr al-Busaidi to participate in the June 18 Gulf Security Dialogue (GSD) in Washington, D.C. Given the importance of defense-related issues to the GSD, post strongly recommends that Ministry of Defense Under Secretary Mohammed bin Nasser al-Rasbi be invited to the talks. The Office of Military Cooperation (OMC) at post has accordingly contacted the office of DoD Acting Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs Mary Beth Long to request that she extend an invitation to al-Rasbi to travel to Washington for the GSD.

GRAPPO